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EXAMINER

LIN, JAMES

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 1792

Box 11:

In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Applicant argues on pg. 2-3 that Yamagata only teaches that the laser beam must be directly incident on Yamagata's defect portion. However, Matsuura teaches that a laser can be used to form a cut area around a defect to isolate the defect.

Applicant argues on pg. 3 that Matsuura's laser irradiation is for disconnecting an FET switch from a defective pixel and that persons of ordinary skill in the art would not have incorporated Matsuura's laser irradiation into Nagayama's method because such a modification would have darkened the entire pixel of Nagayama, contrary to Nagayama's teaching that the rest of the defective pixel should be used to emit light. However, the rejection also includes the teachings of Yamagata, in addition to Nagayama and Matsuura. As a whole, they would have suggested forming an insulating region around the defect in order to isolate the defective EL portion. There is no teaching that such a method would have darkened the entire pixel.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jimmy Lin whose telephone number is (571)272-8902. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Meeks can be reached on 571-272-1423. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1792

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Timothy H Meeks/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1792